

Councilwoman Bonner Announces Funding from State, Town Highway and Suffolk County for Rocky Point Downtown Revitalization

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Pictured are Superintendent of Highways Dan Losquadro, Councilwoman Jane Bonner, Rocky Point Civic Association board member Kathy Weber, State Senator Ken LaValle and County Legislator Sarah Anker.

Farmingville, NY - Early today, Councilwoman Jane Bonner announced that Senator Ken LaValle has secured \$500,000 from the State that will enhance the Rocky Point business district. In addition, Superintendent of Highways Dan Losquadro has committed \$720,000 of 2014 Capital Budget monies from both the Traffic Safety and Street Lighting Divisions.

Councilwoman Bonner is working on a 3-5 year plan with the Town's Planning Department and Division of Traffic Safety to make infrastructure improvements in the downtown's business J-6 district. Recently, the Town purchased property on Broadway in Rocky Point to build a municipal parking lot. The purchase, which was made possible through Community Development Block Grant funding, was the first opportunity for the Town to build on the J6 zoning designation. Councilwoman Bonner also announced that she has secured \$50,000 from the County for the Rocky Point Downtown Revitalization project.

Councilwoman Bonner said, "I want to thank Senator LaValle, who has worked tirelessly to make sure that the State funding would come through, and I also want to thank Dan Losquadro. Because of their efforts, I can assure the Rocky Point residents and business owners that our plan to revitalize the downtown business district will continue to move forward."

"Downtowns play an important role in our communities," said New York State Senator Ken LaValle. "I am pleased to have been able to secure \$500,000 for the revitalization of downtown Rocky Point. A vibrant downtown gives the whole community and region a sense of pride and positive self-image. It also serves as an anchor that holds the community together and provides the stability necessary for economic growth and job creation."

"Since my time as a Suffolk County Legislator when I brought the Downtown Summer Concert Series to Rocky Point as a means of providing free recreational opportunities for residents while increasing sales and revenues for our small businesses, I have always been committed to serving the needs of this community," Superintendent Losquadro said. "By committing money in my capital budget to improve the infrastructure of the Rocky Point Business District, these projects will compliment the efforts of revitalization ongoing in the downtown area. I want to thank Senator LaValle and Councilwoman Bonner for their efforts in this process."

The funding from the State, the Town Highway Department and the county will allow the Town to proceed on the following proposed capital construction projects:

1) Broadway at King Rd, Rocky Pt.

Out dated traffic signal (designed and built in the 80s) doesn't meet Federal or State design or accessibility standards, with a history of crashes, requires redesigning and building to include pedestrian enhancements, such as countdown timers, access ramps (ADA compliant), colored crosswalks, curb extensions (bulb outs), emergency vehicle pre-emption, etc., required to improve intersection safety and accessibility

A) Design plans for upgrade, including Fire Preemption, LED's, video detection

B) Construct new design with pedestrian "Hand/Man" countdown signals, colored crosswalks and new standard ADA ramps, curb and sidewalk.

2) Broadway at Prince Rd, Rocky Pt.

Intersection with limited sight distance and crash history requires improvements to include curb extensions (pedestrian bulb outs), colored crosswalks, accessible ramps (ADA compliant), etc. Traffic calming devices to improve safety and access.

A) Design bulb outs, sidewalk with other traffic calming measures to reduce speeds and volumes

B) Construct new design, colored crosswalks and new standard ADA ramps, curb and sidewalk.

3) Broadway between Old Route 25A and 150' north of King Rd, east and west sides,King Rd and Prince Rd 50-350' in Rocky Pt.

Traffic calming required for both sides of the roadway to include sidewalk, ADA compliant curb cuts, driveway aprons, roadway resurfacing, pavement markings, on street parking, etc., to accommodate pedestrians, bicyclists (shared roadway) and vehicles in a safe efficient manner.

A) Design sidewalk with other traffic calming measures to reduce speeds and volumes

B) Design to include access for bicyclist and pedestrians

C) Construct concrete sidewalk system, highly visible crosswalks and shared roadway bike route

Earlier this year, Councilwoman Bonner helped to establish the Rocky Point Farmer's Market, an opportunity for the Town to build on the J6 zoning designation that is part of the Route 25A Mount Sinai to Wading River Land Use Plan. The plan, which was spearheaded by Councilwoman Bonner, covers a 10.5 mile stretch of Route 25A through the hamlets of Mount Sinai, Miller Place, Sound Beach, Rocky Point, Shoreham and Wading River to the Riverhead town line.

Prior to adopting the Route 25A Land Use Plan, the Town Board held public hearings to amend a number of zoning definitions, consider changes of zone to 79 properties in the Rocky Point business district from their current zoning from J2 (Neighborhood Business) to J6 (Main Street Business) and to create three new overlay districts. In creating the plan, Councilwoman Bonner's overriding concern was to preserve the current high quality of life enjoyed by corridor residents by preserving the community character of the area, preventing future suburban sprawl, limiting "big box" retail, improving both the safety and appearance of Route 25A, and revitalizing local businesses and Main Streets along the corridor.

The Route 25A Mount Sinai to Wading River Land Use Plan and Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) are available on the Town website at www.brookhaven.org.

Division of Public Information * Office of the Supervisor

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